

Chapter 6. Glossary of Technical Terms

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Note: All acronyms used in the text are defined under "List of Acronyms" found after the Table of Contents and Lists of Tables and Figures in the front of this document.

Acre-foot. The quantity of water that would cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot (43,560 cubic feet or 326,700 gallons).

Actual exports. Actual exports are the least of the following: the amount specified by the export limits (i.e., as percentage of inflow), available water (i.e., water available after outflow requirements are met), and permitted export pumping rate.

Adulticides. Mosquito pesticides that target adult-stage mosquitos.

Agricultural yield. A measurement of the level of crop production for a given area, generally given in tons or tons per acre.

Allowable export. Water allowable for export under the 1995 WQCP is the lesser of the amount specified by the export limits (i.e., percentage of total Delta inflow) and the amount remaining after outflow requirements are met (i.e., available water).

Anadromous species. Fishes that inhabit marine waters during juvenile and adult life stages and migrate to fresh water to spawn.

Appropriative water rights. Water rights held in the form of conditional permits or licenses from SWRCB, which allow the diversion of a specified amount of water from a source for reasonable and beneficial use during all or a portion of the year. In California, previously issued appropriative water rights are superior to and take precedence over newly granted rights. SWRCB's authorizations contain terms and conditions to protect prior water right holders, including Delta and upstream riparian water users, and to protect the public interest in fish and wildlife resources. To a varying degree, SWRCB reserves jurisdiction to establish or revise certain permit or license terms and conditions for salinity control, protection of fish and wildlife, protection of vested water rights, and coordination of terms and conditions between the major water supply projects.

Aquifer. A porous soil or geological formation lying between impermeable strata in which water may move for long distances; yields groundwater to springs and wells.

Available water. Under the 1995 WQCP, available water is total Delta inflow less Delta outflow requirements.

Biological oxygen demand (BOD). A measure of rapidly oxidized or decayed organic materials.

Blowout ponds. Small lakes on Webb and Holland Tracts scoured in the island bottoms by intruding floodwaters caused by levee failures in 1950 on Webb Tract and in 1980 on both islands.

Borrow area. An excavated area or pit created by the removal of earth material to be used as fill in a different location.

Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*). A bacterial larva that consumes first and second larval instar stages of mosquitos.

Buttress. An exterior pier, often sloped, used to steady a structure by providing greater resistance to lateral forces to prevent buckling. See also "toe berm".

Calibration. See "Model calibration".

Candidate species (also candidate threatened or endangered species). Taxa (species or subspecies) of plants and animals currently being considered for listing to be protected as special-status species by USFWS.

Carriage water. Delta outflow beyond the basic outflow required to meet water quality standards. The additional Delta outflow required (carriage water) is a function of Delta export pumping and south Delta inflow, and is necessary to maintain acceptable chloride concentrations in export water as Delta exports are increased.

Central Valley Project (CVP). The federal water project in California's Central Valley operated by Reclamation.

Channel depletion. The water removed from Delta channels by diversions for irrigation and by open-water evaporation.

Color. A variable of water that reflects its organic content (primarily humic and fulvic acids).

Confirmation. See "Model Confirmation".

Conjunctive use. A term used to describe operation of a groundwater basin in coordination with a surface water system.

Consumptive use. Loss of water on the DW project islands and other Delta islands through crop ET and open-water evaporation and use for shallow-water management for wetlands and wildlife habitat. Rainfall and channel depletion supply the consumptive use water.

Conveyance. The flow capacity of a channel related to the hydraulic radius, used to describe the flow in channels.

Conveyance capacity. The volume of water that can be transported by a canal, aqueduct, or ditch. Conveyance capacity is generally measured in cfs.

Cubic feet per second (cfs). A measure of a moving volume of water, sometimes shortened to "second-feet".

Cultural resource. Any building, site, district, structure, object, data, or other material significant in history, architecture, archaeology, or culture.

DAYFLOW. DWR's database of daily hydrologic conditions, including measured Delta inflows and exports, estimated consumptive use, and net Delta outflow. The daily data have been compiled for each water year (October 1 to September 30) beginning with 1930 and are updated annually. USGS and DWR streamflow gages are the sources of inflow measurements for the Sacramento, San Joaquin, Mokelumne, Cosumnes, and Calaveras Rivers. Yolo Bypass and several miscellaneous inflows between Sacramento and Stockton are also estimated from available streamflow gages. CVP and SWP operations records are the source of export pumping data. DAYFLOW provides an accounting of historical Delta boundary (systemwide) hydrology that is used for evaluating flow-related conditions in the Delta.

Delta exports. Water exported from the Delta through the North Bay Aqueduct, Contra Costa Canal, the CVP Delta-Mendota Canal at Tracy Pumping Plant, and the SWP California Aqueduct at Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant.

Delta-Mendota Canal (DMC). The major conveyance facility of the CVP, which carries water from the Delta to as far south as the southern San Joaquin Valley.

Delta outflow criteria. Minimum water quality or flow standards for the Delta and Suisun Marsh, such as those required by the 1995 WQCP.

DeltaSOS. A computer spreadsheet model developed by JSA that simulates the effects of regulatory standards and water management projects on the Delta.

Delta standards. A general term referring to all applicable water quality objectives; flow requirements; and other restrictions on diversions, exports, channel flows, or gate operations.

Delta Standards and Operations Simulation model. See "DeltaSOS".

Direct economic effects. Changes in the earnings of households generated by DW project operations and changes in fiscal conditions (property and sales tax revenues and public costs) associated with DW project operations.

Direct employment. Employment generated in businesses that are part of the DW project (i.e., agriculture; recreational uses; and construction, operations, and maintenance of project facilities).

Direct fishery effects. Mortality of fish attributable to DW diversions, including entrainment in DW diversions and losses resulting from changes in habitat.

Direct income. Earnings of households generated in businesses that are part of DW project operations.

Disinfection byproducts (DBP). A class of chemicals created during chlorination or other oxidation treatment processes used to disinfect municipal water supplies. Organic content and chloride and bromide concentrations are the primary variables that influence the formation of DBP compounds.

Dissolved oxygen (DO). Oxygen dissolved in water that is available to supply oxidation and respiration requirements.

Diversions. Water diverted at control points, including reservoir control points. Diversions typically represent basin irrigation diversions, water transfers, municipal diversions, and exports.

Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). A division of the California Department of Water Resources responsible for reviewing design and construction of dams and levees that hold over a 6-foot depth of water.

Drawdown. The lowering of the water level of a reservoir or other body of water as a result of the withdrawal of water.

DWRSIM. DWR's operations planning model, used to estimate possible effects of increased demands, new facilities, or new standards on SWP operations.

Eight-River Index. The sum of the unimpaired runoff as published in the DWR Bulletin 120 for the following locations: Sacramento River flow at Bend Bridge, near Red Bluff; Feather River, total inflow to Oroville Reservoir; Yuba River flow at Smartville; American River, total inflow to Folsom Reservoir; Stanislaus River, total inflow to New Melones Reservoir; Tuolumne River, total inflow to Don Pedro Reservoir; Merced River, total inflow to Exchequer Reservoir; and San Joaquin River, total inflow to Millerton Lake.

Electrical conductivity (EC). A general measure of dissolved salts in water; the most commonly measured water quality variable in the Delta.

Employment multiplier. The number of jobs associated with a \$1 million change in final demand in a specified industry and a specified region.

Endangered species. Any plant or animal species or subspecies whose survival is threatened with extinction.

Entrainment. The process in which fish are drawn into water diversion facilities along with water drawn from a channel or other water body by siphons and/or pumps. Entrainment loss includes

all fish not salvaged (i.e., eggs, larvae, juveniles, and adults that pass through the fish screens, are impinged on the fish screens, or are eaten by predators).

Entrapment zone. An area or zone of the Bay-Delta estuary where riverine current meets upstream-flowing estuarine currents and variations in flow interact with particle settling to trap particles. The entrapment zone generally corresponds to a surface salinity range of 2-10 mS/cm conductance. The entrapment zone is an important aquatic habitat region associated with high levels of biological productivity.

Erosion. A combination of processes (e.g., wind or tidal action) in which the materials of the earth's surface are loosened, dissolved, or worn away and transported from one place to another by natural agents.

Ethnography. The comprehensive, descriptive study of a particular culture.

Evapotranspiration (ET). Loss of water from the earth's surface by evaporation from soil or water and by transpiration from plants.

Exotic. Not native to the region in which it is found; refers to vegetation and wildlife species.

Export limits. The 1995 WQCP specifies that Delta exports are limited to a percentage of total Delta inflow (generally 35% during February-June and 65% during July-January).

Exports. The water pumped from the Delta to south-of-Delta users by DWR at the Banks Pumping Plant and Reclamation at the CVP Tracy Pumping Plant and the amount diverted by CCWD at its Rock Slough intake.

Fallow. *adj.* Relating to farmland that is not in active use for the growing of crops. *v.* To remove land from active crop production.

Farmland conversion. The process or result of changing land from agricultural use to a different (generally more intensive) land use.

Farmland of statewide importance. Land with a good combination of physical and chemical features for the production of agricultural crops.

Final demand. Sum of all purchases for final use or consumption.

Full-time equivalent (FTE) employment. A unit for measuring employment in terms of number of jobs, where one job equals 40 hours of work per week. The actual number of employee jobs supported by a business may differ based on how total work hours are divided among employees.

Future permitted export pumping capacity. In the future, new permit conditions may be established for the SWP, thereby allowing the permitted export pumping rate of the SWP pumps to be increased to the physical export pumping capacity of 10,300 cfs. If that occurs, the com-

lined permitted export pumping rate of the SWP and CVP pumps could then equal up to 14,900 cfs or 14,500 cfs.

Gas field. An area that contains closely contiguous reservoirs of commercially valuable gas.

General plan designation. A specified land use (e.g., agricultural, residential, or commercial) established for a given area by the local governing city or county in its general plan, as required by California law (California Government Code Sections 65300 et seq.).

Geotechnical. Of or pertaining to the practical application of geologic science to civil engineering problems.

Habitat evaluation procedures (HEP). A method for analyzing impacts on wildlife resources that models the preproject and postproject quality and quantity of habitats for a set of species selected to represent all wildlife.

Habitat suitability index (HSI). A rating of the overall quality of a habitat for a species calculated using a model that combines ratings of different individual habitat variables.

Habitat unit (HU). A unit of habitat value determined by multiplying habitat acreages for different areas by each area's habitat suitability index.

Historical conditions. The combination of measured inflows and exports, estimated channel depletion and Delta outflow, simulated channel flows, and measured or simulated EC and other water quality variables.

Historical Delta flows. Measured Delta inflows and exports, estimated Delta outflow, and simulated net channel flows corresponding to the inflows and exports.

Hydraulic gradient. Difference in water surface elevation between two points; describes the water surface slope that controls the movement of water along a channel.

Hydraulic head. The pressure created by water within a given volume.

Hydraulic radius. Channel cross-section area divided by the perimeter of the channel; used in this EIR/EIS as the effective depth of water in a channel.

Hydraulics. Study of the practical effects and control of moving water; used to refer to the relationship between channel geometry and flow, velocity, and depth of water.

Hydrology. General description of the movement of water in the atmosphere, on the earth surface, in the soil, and in the ground; used in this EIR/EIS to refer to rainfall and streamflow conditions.

Hydrostatic pressure. The pressure of water at a given depth caused by the weight of the fluid above it.

Income. The earnings of households associated with a given industry, consisting of employee compensation (salary and wages) and proprietor's earnings (profit and dividends) but excluding proprietor contributions to welfare and pension funds. Income is classified as direct or secondary (see "Direct income" and "Secondary income").

Income multiplier. The amount of income associated with a dollar change in final demand in a specified industry and a specified region.

Indirect employment. Employment generated in businesses supplying goods and services related to DW project operations.

Indirect fishery effects. Mortality of fish attributable to other diversions that results from DW effects on Delta flow conditions.

Induced employment. Employment generated as a result of consumer spending by employees who are directly and indirectly affected by DW project operations.

Inflow. The total streamflow entering the Delta from the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, Yolo Bypass, and the eastside streams.

Intactness. The visual integrity of the natural and constructed landscape and its freedom from encroaching elements.

Interceptor well. A pumped well located on an island levee for controlling groundwater flow off the island.

Kilovolt (kV). A metric unit of energy equal to 1,000 volts.

Levee crest. The top of a levee.

Level of service (LOS). A measurement of the relative amount of traffic congestion at an intersection or on a roadway. The scale of measurement ranges from "A" to "F", with "A" representing the least congestion and "F" the most congestion.

Liquefaction. The process in which soil loses cohesion when subject to seismic activity (i.e., shaking).

Midges. Nonbiting insects that breed in ponded water and, as adults, are similar in appearance to mosquitos and can be a nuisance to humans when the insects swarm.

Midwater trawl index. The annual index is the sum of the weighted catch of fish of four monthly samples (September-December) from numerous locations in the Delta and Suisun Bay. The index is assumed to be a measure of abundance when considered in relation to the catch for all other years of the sampling record (1967-1995). In the Bay-Delta estuary, the index has been

developed for striped bass, American shad, delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, longfin smelt, and other species.

Mitigation. Methods to avoid, reduce, rectify, eliminate, or compensate for adverse project impacts.

Mixing. Exchange of mass between two volumes; used in this EIR/EIS to refer to the movement of salt or fish from one location to another caused by the tidal movement of water within the Delta channels.

Mixing zone. A localized region surrounding a discharge pipe (or diffuser) that is used for initial mixing and dilution of a discharge with the channel water.

Model calibration. Adjustments made to a model (i.e., equations or coefficient values) to provide results that more closely follow observed data; used especially during initial model development and testing.

Model confirmation. Comparative testing of model results with measured data to determine the adequacy of model simulations for describing the observed behavior of the modeled variables; used especially during model application to conditions different from those used to calibrate the model.

Mosquito abatement districts (MADs). Agencies responsible for controlling mosquitos as disease vectors and as a nuisance to humans.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture, maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

Natural Resources Conservation Service land capability classification system. The land classification system that places soils into eight classes (I-VIII) according to the limitations on agricultural use imposed by 13 specific soil and climatic criteria. The higher the class, the more restrictive the limitation. Classes I through IV are generally considered lands suitable for cultivation. Class I and II soils are defined as prime farmland.

Net flow. Long-term average of flows in a channel; used to describe the magnitude and direction of flow in a channel after flows during a tidal cycle are averaged.

Nonattainment area. An area that does not meet state and/or federal air pollution standards.

Nongame fish. Fish species not considered sport fishes by anglers; nongame fish are generally found near the lower end of the food chain.

Nonproject levees. Levees constructed and maintained by local landowners and reclamation districts.

Null zone. An area in a column of water where vertical velocity and net horizontal velocity near the bottom are zero during incoming (flood) and outgoing (ebb) tides.

Outflow. The water flowing out of the Delta into San Francisco Bay.

Outflow requirements. The 1995 WQCP specifies Delta outflow requirements that encompass water quality protection for agricultural and municipal and industrial uses, Suisun Marsh, and fish habitat. In standard DWR calculations of Delta operations (using DWRSIM), "outflow" represents the difference between inflow and exports; the outflow term therefore includes in-Delta consumptive use.

Overtopping. Flooding that occurs when a levee crest is lower than the adjacent water level.

Peak flow. The maximum discharge of a stream during a specified period of time.

Peak-hour trips. The number of traffic trips made during the hour of the day with the most traffic. Also referred to as peak-hour volume.

Peat soils. Acidic, humus-rich soils that contain a large amount of unconsolidated, semicarbonized, partially decomposed plant debris formed in an anaerobic, water-saturated environment.

Permeability. The capacity of a porous rock, sediment, or soil for transmitting a fluid.

Permitted pumping rate. The Corps does not require a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for current SWP export pumping. However, the Corps would require a permit if SWP export pumping were to exceed a maximum 3-day average rate of 6,680 cfs. Therefore, the maximum combined export pumping rate that does not require a Corps permit is 11,280 cfs (6,680 cfs for the SWP pumps and 4,600 cfs for the CVP pumps). The restrictions for the period of December 15 to March 15, as interpreted by DWR, allow a combined rate of 11,700 cfs in December and March and a combined maximum 3-day average rate of 12,700 cfs in January and February. For assessment of the DW project alternatives, it is assumed that the SWP and CVP pumps will always pump the maximum amount allowable (i.e., the lesser of available water and the amount specified by the export limits) within the limits of the permitted pumping rate. (See also "Future permitted export pumping capacity".)

Phreatic. Of or pertaining to groundwater.

Physical export pumping capacity. The SWP export pumps have a maximum physical pumping capacity of 10,300 cfs and the CVP export pumps have a maximum physical pumping capacity of 4,600 cfs, for a combined physical export pumping capacity of 14,900 cfs. At times, the canal capacity for the CVP is reduced to 4,200 cfs, reducing the combined physical export pumping capacity to 14,500 cfs.

Piezometer. A sandpipe monitoring well used to measure the depth to the groundwater surface in the aquifer.

Piscivorous birds. Fish-eating birds, including cormorants, herons, egrets, grebes, and mergansers.

Planimeter. An instrument for measuring the area of a plane surface by tracing its boundary lines.

Plankton. The usually microscopic animal and plant life floating or drifting in bodies of water, used as food by fish.

Pollutant concentration. Concentration of any toxic or potentially toxic contaminant, expressed in ppt, ppm, or ppb.

Prehistory. The period of time before written history, or the study of cultures before written history or of more recent cultures lacking formal historical records.

Prime farmland. Land with the best combination of physical and chemical features for the production of agricultural crops.

PROSIM. Reclamation's operations planning model, used to estimate possible effects of increased demands, new facilities, or new standards on CVP operations.

QWEST. A calculated flow parameter representing net flow between the central Delta and the western Delta. QWEST criteria have previously been considered for protection of central Delta fish.

Reclamation. Extensive drainage of low-lying marshy lands for potential practical use.

Recreation use-day. A standard unit of use consisting of a visit by one individual to an area for recreation purposes during any portion of a 24-hour period.

Recruitment. The increase in population of an organism caused by natural reproduction or immigration.

Resident species. A species that carries out its entire life cycle within a given region.

Reverse flow. The Delta outflow condition existing when in-Delta diversions or high Delta exports, in combination with low Delta inflow, cause net seaward flow to reverse so that San Francisco Bay water is moved toward the central and south Delta.

Riparian. Living on or adjacent to a water body, such as a river, lake, or pond.

Riparian habitat. Woody vegetation (trees and shrubs) that grows in soils saturated for a substantial portion of the year, especially on the edges of open water bodies (e.g., lakes, rivers, or ditches) or on levees.

Riparian water rights. Correlative entitlements to water that are held by owners of land bordering natural water courses. California requires a statement of diversion and use of natural flows on adjacent riparian land under a riparian right.

Riprap. A lightweight stone covering used to protect soil or surfaces from erosion by water or the elements.

Rock revetment. See "riprap".

Sacramento Valley Four-River Index (or Sacramento Valley 40-30-30 water-year hydrologic classification index). The sum of the unimpaired runoff as published in the DWR Bulletin 120 for the following locations: Sacramento River flow at Bend Bridge, near Red Bluff; Feather River, total inflow to Oroville Reservoir; Yuba River flow at Smartville; and American River, total inflow to Folsom Reservoir.

Safe yield. The rate at which or amount that an aquifer may be pumped without exceeding recharge and incurring overdraft.

Salinity. Salt measured in ppt, TDS, EC units, or mg/l.

Salvage. Removal of fish from screens on diversion structures and the subsequent return of the fish to the water body.

San Joaquin Valley Four-River Index (or San Joaquin Valley 60-20-20 water-year hydrologic classification index). The sum of the unimpaired runoff as published in the DWR Bulletin 120 for the following locations: Stanislaus River, total inflow to New Melones Reservoir; Tuolumne River, total inflow to Don Pedro Reservoir; Merced River, total inflow to Exchequer Reservoir; and San Joaquin River, total inflow to Millerton Lake.

Secondary economic effects. Changes in the earnings of households and in fiscal conditions (property and sales tax revenues and public costs) associated with changes in businesses supplying goods and services related to DW project operations and with spending by employees directly and indirectly affected by DW project operations.

Secondary employment. Indirect or induced employment.

Secondary income. Earnings of households generated in businesses supplying goods and services related to DW project operations (indirect income) and generated as a result of spending by employees directly and indirectly affected by DW project operations (induced income).

Sediment. Fragmented mineral or organic material transported or deposited by air, water, or ice.

Seepage. A slow movement of water through permeable soils caused by increases in the hydraulic head.

Seismicity. The frequency, intensity, and distribution of earthquake activity in a given area.

Settlement. The sinking of surface material as a result of compaction of soils or sediment caused by an increase in the weight of overlying deposits or by pressure resulting from earth movements.

Simulation. The application of a mathematical representation or model to analyze a theoretical or physical process.

Smolt. A juvenile fish that has undergone physiological change enabling it to survive in saltwater.

Spawn. Laying of eggs, especially by fish.

Special-status species. Those species listed as threatened or endangered by the state and federal governments or identified as possibly warranting such protection.

Species. The basic category of biological classification intended to designate a single kind of animal or plant.

Stage. Water surface elevation; the elevation above mean sea level (msl) datum.

State Historic Preservation Officer. The official in each state authorized by the state at the request of the Secretary of the Interior to implement the NHPA.

State Water Project (SWP). The water project operated by DWR that delivers water from the Sacramento Valley to southern California.

Subsidence. A local or regional sinking of the ground. In the Delta, this results primarily from peat soil being converted into gas.

Suspended sediment (SS). Sediments or other particulates that adsorb chemicals and block light transmission through water; a general indicator of surface erosion and runoff.

Take. A term used in Section 9 of the federal Endangered Species Act that includes harassment of and harm to a species, entrainment, directly and indirectly caused mortality, and actions that adversely modify or destroy habitat.

Threatened species. A species that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future and is included in the federal or state list of threatened species.

Tidal excursion. The distance between the most upstream position and most downstream position of a floating object that is released from a location at mean tide and tracked over a complete tidal cycle.

Tidal flow. Flow caused by tidal changes in stage and hydraulic gradient; describes the fluctuating flows in a channel caused by the tide.

Tidal hydraulics or tidal hydrodynamics. Water movements caused by tidal forces; used to describe the movement of water caused by tidal stage variations in San Francisco Bay.

Tidal prism. The volume of water that moves past a location as the result of a change in tidal stage; used in this EIR/EIS to refer to the change in volume between low tide and high tide, estimated as the upstream water surface area times the change in tidal stage.

Toe berm. The section projecting at the base of a dam, levee, or retaining wall. See also "buttress".

Total dissolved solids (TDS). The total dissolved solids content or total salt concentration in water.

Transport. Movement of mass from one location to another; used in this EIR/EIS to refer to the movement of salt or fish from one location to another caused by net flows.

Trihalomethane (THM). A class of carcinogenic substances, including chloroform and bromoform, formed from chlorination of drinking water supplies.

Trihalomethane formation potential (THMFP). The potential for creation of trihalomethanes during chlorination or other oxidation treatment processes used for disinfection of municipal water supplies.

Turbidity. The reduction of light transmission in water caused primarily by the suspension of clays, silts, and other fine materials.

Unimpaired flow. Natural tributary inflow without storage or diversions.

Unique farmland. Land with soils of lesser quality than the soils of prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance, used for the production of the state's leading cash crops.

Unity. The visual coherence, composition, and harmony of the landscape considered as a whole.

Vividness. The visual power or memorability of landscape components that combine in visual patterns.

Volume-to-capacity (V/C) ratio. The ratio of the number of vehicles using a roadway or intersection to the maximum number of vehicles that could use the roadway or intersection.

Waste grain. Grain left in fields as residue after harvesting, which is often eaten by wildlife species.

Water demand. A monthly schedule of water deliveries added to a point of diversion or delivery in an operations model analysis.

Waterfowl use-day. A standard unit for measuring use of an area by waterfowl; one waterfowl use-day represents use of an area by ducks, geese, and/or swans for foraging or nesting during any portion of a 24-hour period.

Water right. A grant, permit, decree, appropriation, or claim to the use of water for beneficial purposes. California has a dual system of water rights: riparian and appropriative. *Riparian water rights* are held by owners of land bordering a surface water source. *Appropriative water rights* allow the exclusive diversion of a specified amount of water from a source for a reasonable and beneficial use. (See also "Riparian water rights" and "Appropriative water rights".)

Water Right Decision-1485 (D-1485). SWRCB's decision of August 1978 specifying water quality standards for the Delta and Suisun Marsh.

Wetlands. Areas supporting vegetation typical of soils that are saturated for a major portion of the year.

Wheeling. Use of SWP or CVP Delta pumping facilities to pump and convey water for another party.

Williamson Act contract. A 10-year contract between a landowner and a county, established under the authority of the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, which places restrictions on the use of the private land in exchange for tax savings.

X2. The location in the Bay-Delta estuary relative to the Golden Gate Bridge (measured in kilometers) of the 2-ppt isohaline 1 meter off the bottom; an isohaline is a line connecting all points of equal salinity.

Yield. An annual quantity of water that can be delivered to a service area from a water project on a specified delivery schedule.